



Wistow Crescent Reserve

Community Consultation Findings

June 2021



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1. Introduction

City of Marion is planning a new local level playground and reserve upgrade at Wistow Reserve, Trott Park.

A concept plan has been developed for the reserve and includes:

- A natural timber multi-station with various climbing elements and a slide
- Nature play including log steppers, balancing logs and stepping stones
- New trees, planting and landscaping
- A new pathway from Wistow Crescent into the reserve
- New irrigation
- Drinking fountain
- Informal seating

In May/ June 2021 Council completed community engagement to seek the community views of the proposed concept plan.

This report provides information on the consultation undertaken and the feedback received.

The findings will be used to finalise the concept plan, to proceed to the next stage of detailed design and construction.

2. Executive Summary

Council received 21 responses to the online survey. There was high support for the upgrade with 77% of respondents either very happy or happy with the concept plan for Wistow Crescent Reserve.

The elements that respondents liked most about the concept plan included:

- (1) nature play
- (2) overall upgrades
- (3) new trees / landscaping

The adventure play was also popular.

The aspects that respondents would like to see improved in the concept plan included:

- (1) swing(s)
- (2) more kick about space
- (3) suitable elements for toddlers and younger children.

There was a strong preference for the reserve to be family friendly and cater for a range of ages. Many liked the ideas in the concept plan and are excited about the upgrades.

3. Consultation Program

The community engagement was undertaken over four weeks from 4 May – 1 June 2021.

It included:

- An information postcard sent to 950 households within a 500m² radius from the reserve
- Information on the Making Marion website
- An online survey
- Facebook posts
- Onsite signage



- Community drop in session on 18 May 2021 from 4.30pm-5.30pm

4. Consultation Overview

During the consultation period Council received:

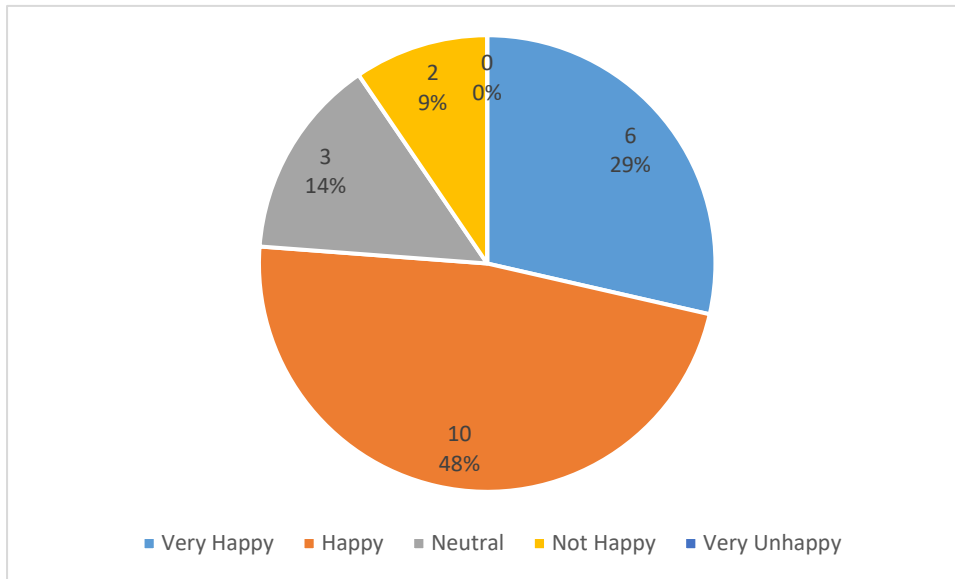
- 29 visits to the online survey
- 21 survey responses
- 25 people attended the community drop in session on 18 May 2021

5. Consultation Findings

Each question is listed with the corresponding graph and results summary.



Q1. How happy are you with the concept plan for Wistow Crescent Reserve?



Summary of results

A total of 21 respondents completed this question:

- 77% of respondents stated they were very happy/ happy with the concept plan
- 14% were neutral and 9% not happy

Q2. What do you like about the concept plan?

Summary of results

We received 21 text responses to this question. Below is a summary of the key elements that respondents liked about the concept plan. The ticks / number represent the number of times mentioned. The top 3 items included 1. nature play, 2. overall upgrades and 3. new trees / landscaping.

- Nature play (10) ✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓
- That the reserve is being upgraded (8) ✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓
- New trees / landscaping (8) ✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓
- Adventure play (7) ✓✓✓✓✓✓✓
- Pathways (2) ✓✓
- Lots more to do at the reserve (2) ✓✓
- Drinking fountain (1) ✓

Refer to Appendix 1 to view a full list of the text responses



Q3. What could be improved in the concept plan?

Summary of results

We received 19 text responses, and 2 respondents skipped this question.

Below is a summary of the main improvements that respondents would like to see in the design. The ticks/numbers represent the number of times mentioned.

The top 3 improvements suggested included 1. swings, 2. more kick about space and 3. suitable elements for toddlers and younger children.

- Swings (10) ✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓
- More kick about space / reduce size of garden beds (3) ✓✓✓
- More suitable elements for toddlers and younger children (3) ✓✓✓
- More trees / plants (2) ✓✓
- Seats (2) ✓✓
- Monkey bars (1) ✓
- Ride on equipment (1) ✓
- Spinner (1) ✓
- Sandpit (1) ✓
- See saw (1) ✓
- Bike track (1) ✓
- None (1) ✓
- The overall plan (1) ✓
- Aboriginal concepts (1) ✓
- Drinking fountain (1) ✓
- Bin (1) ✓
- Less nature play (1) ✓

Refer to Appendix 2 to view a full list of the text responses



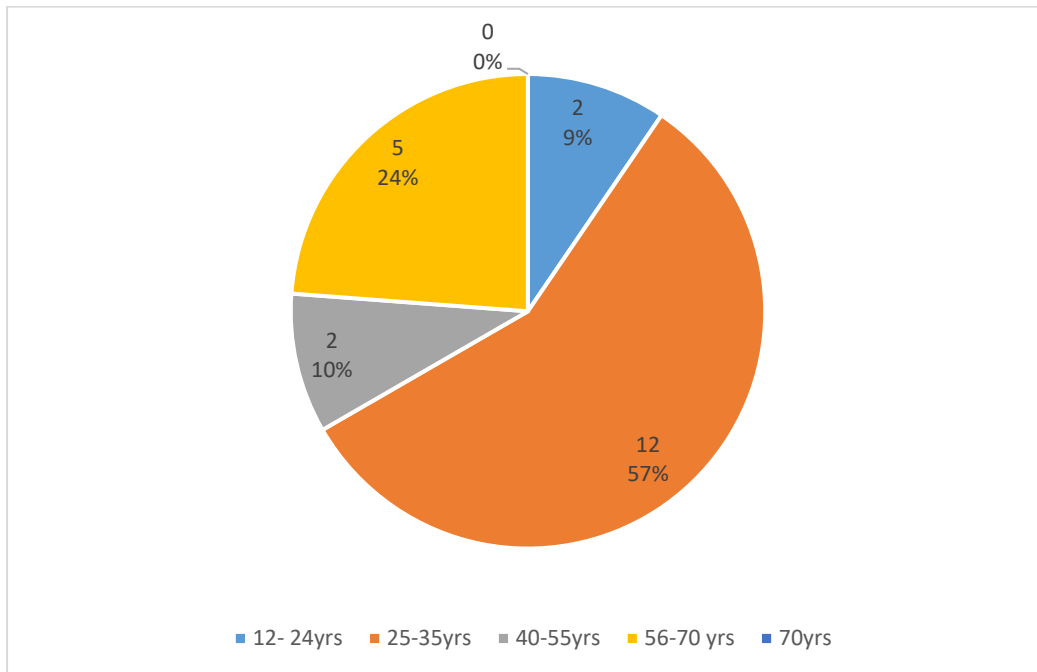
Q4. Do you have any other comments or feedback?

Comments Summary	
PLAYGROUND	FACILITIES / AMENITIES / NATURE
Playground improvements Bike track around the park (1) ✓ Safe equipment / cater for younger children (4) ✓✓✓✓ More kick about space (2) Basketball court (1) ✓ Fitness equipment (1) ✓ Sand pit (1) ✓ Monkey bars (1) ✓	Add seats (1) ✓ Add a table (1) ✓ Include large native trees that attract birds (1) ✓
GENERAL COMMENTS	
Thank you very much / cant wait to see the site upgraded (4) ✓✓✓✓ Would like to be updated as the project progresses (1) ✓ Excellent concept (2) ✓✓ Concern re height of the playground / overlooking into properties (1) ✓ Consider a range of age groups including older adults / teenagers (1) ✓	

Refer to Appendix 3 to view a full list of the text responses



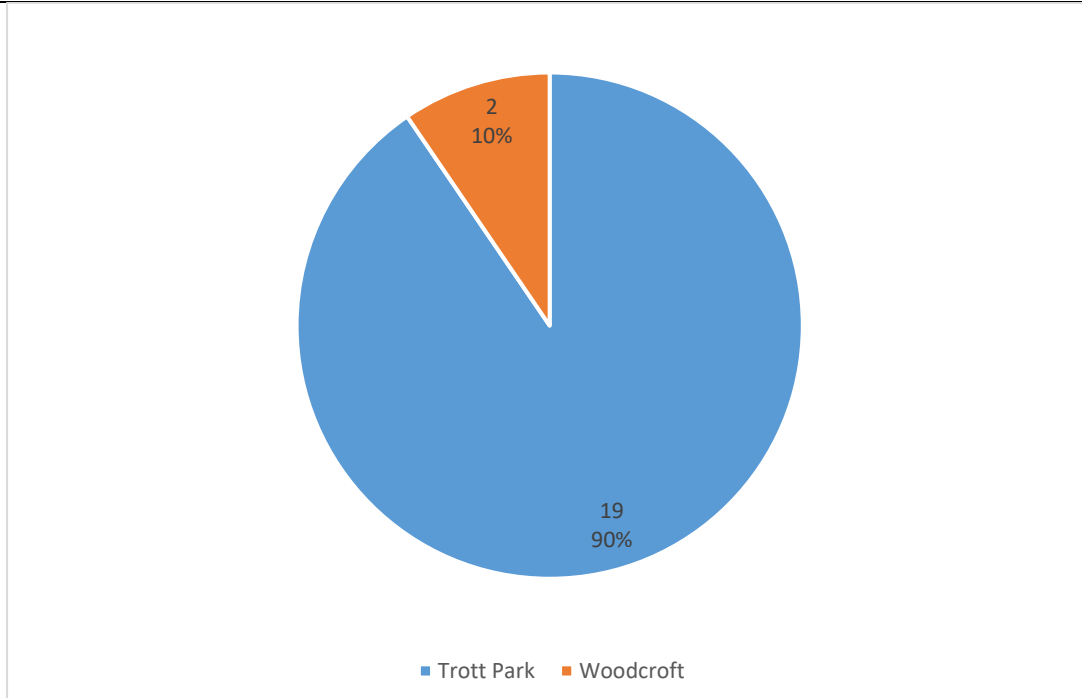
Q8. Age



Summary of results

The majority of respondents are aged 25-35 years (57%) and 56-70 years (24%).

Q9. Suburb



Summary of results

The majority of respondents are from Trott Park (90%).

6. Community Drop In Session

A drop in session was held on 18 May 2021 from 4.30pm-5.30pm and approximately 25 people attended the session. Attendees were interested in viewing the concept plans and offered feedback including:

- Add a swing
- Include a few activities / equipment for younger children eg – see-saw
- Add seats for parents and grandparents
- Keep the open lawn kick-about spaces
- Consider irrigated turf

There was a strong preference for the reserve to be family friendly and cater for a range of ages. Some were seeking the nature play to be reduced in favour of additional structured playground equipment (eg-swings). Many liked the ideas in the concept plan and are excited about the upgrades.

7. Design Response

Some key themes emerged throughout the consultation and evaluation process which have influenced the final design.

Overall summary of key themes and the design response:

<i>Key Theme</i>	<i>No. times issue raised</i>	<i>Design Response</i>
Playground equipment: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Swing- Monkey bars- Ride on equipment- Spinner- Sandpit- See saw- Bike track- Basketball court- Fitness equipment	10 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	This reserve is a local level playground designed to cater for people within walking distance. It will be less developed than a neighbourhood or regional reserve and will include a slide and combination system, in accordance with the City of Marion playground framework. It has been noted that the community would like a swing, and this will be added in the next revision of the design. However, due to budget constraints the combination unit and nature play may need to be reduced in size (to enable a swing to be added).
Park facilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Drinking fountain- Bins- Seat	1 1 2	A drinking fountain, bin and seat will be added to the design.
More kick- about irrigated open space	3	Some irrigated open space will be included in the design. This area will allow for some ball games. However, for larger kick about open space please visit Barton Drive Reserve, Sandy Glass Court Reserve, Montague Drive Reserve or Hallett Close Reserve in Sheidow Park.
Add equipment for younger children	3	The concept plan caters for a range of ages, including younger children. A swing set will be added to ensure very young children are catered for at this site.



Additional trees / plantings	2	Additional tree / plants will be incorporated, subject to budget.
Aboriginal concepts	1	We will consider Aboriginal concepts as the design evolves in the next phase of the planning.
Less nature play	1	Nature play is a popular activity and is designed to promote imaginative / creative play and encourage children to engage with the natural environment. All City of Marion playground upgrades include nature play components.
Height of playground / overlooking	1	Have noted concerns regarding overlooking adjoining properties. It will be ensured that the playground platform height is not too high (to reduce any potential of viewing over surrounding fences).

7. Next Steps

We thank all that provided their feedback and participated in the engagement process.

The feedback will help finalise the Wistow Crescent Reserve concept plan to proceed to detailed design.

8. Project Updates

Project updates will be provided on the Wistow Crescent Reserve page on the City of Marion website and Making Marion pages



Appendix 1

All 21 text responses to Question 2: What do you like about the concept plan?

New lawn & irrigation, climbing equipment & the slide.

That it's being upgraded! We live on the street and are always the only ones using the equipment when we are there. We like the nature play, climbing and slide. Also, glad to see there is some work on additional landscaping.

Appears to be multiple things to do

Great new adventure play and a pathway to access is fantastic

More to play on at the park

Love that's it's a bit of nature play, climbing, balancing, stepping stones, also like how you will incorporate some native plants and native trees. Drinking fountain is fabulous idea too.

Nature play and planting of trees.

The new changes

The nature play area and the added shrubs and trees

Nature play, climbing frame

It's nice to update a park when it is older

It looks a lot more natural and more areas for kids to play

That it is being upgraded

Nature play and finally a grassed area. Keeping the existing trees is important.

The climbing frame with slide and irrigated lawn. The new plan would prevent the park being the eyesore it currently is.

Natural elements, more planting and trees and pathway

The trees, and nature play

Woodern aspect and re-usable play equipment

Disappointed no equipment included for younger children

Wooden playground, seating, nature play.

The new look and wooden features.



Appendix 2

All 19 Text responses to Question 3: What could be improved in the concept plan?

Swings & a see saw would be fantastic

Would be fantastic to see swings. Such as one of those round a rope swing

Perhaps a bike track that goes around the perimeter of the space as it is quite a large area.

None

The proposed plan!

Maybe add some Aboriginal concepts would be a nice feature too.

Would like to see more large trees near the fences

Don't have too much garden bed - it's a great area for the kids to kick around a ball too so some open grass area is appreciated.

It is not user friendly for toddlers and younger, we have been using the current park since my 2yr old was 9months. This new design and all new parks are not suitable for this age. They need easy steps. It is also removing too much of the open grass.

Add a drinking fountain and a bin

A swing set and a place to sit and watch/ have a snack

The demographic here is young so a swing and slide are important. Seating for parents and grandparents.

Fewer shrubs and more lawn for active play/sport (positioning the playground towards an end of the park, instead of centrally would help). Fewer stepping logs in favour of things kids play on for extended periods would be great (swings/spinners/sand pit)

Any additional plants where possible

Would love to see a swing

I would like to see the design allow all ages to use the slide toddlers and older kids and maybe for it to be a double slide. The design of the playground seem to be design around older children 3+ not allowing younger children to climb up to the slide.

Installation of a swing and ride on equipment

Swing and monkey bars

Less bushes and more grass area. Swings and a slide

Appendix 3

All 18 text responses to Question 4: Any other comments or feedback?

Thanks very much for looking at improving this playground

Would love to be kept in the loop.

This is an awesome and exciting concept for Wistow Crescent reserve. My children played there and now I take my grandson there to play so to see such a new and exciting nature play area and new equipment is just wonderful.

I am so excited to see this here with my child's grandparents living on Wistow Crescent and we spend lots of time here and visit the park a lot with our young child 😊

Seating, I couldn't see the seating on the plan. Unless it's sitting on the logs. Is there a table?

Possibility of incorporating a bike track that goes around the park. I have seen at some other parks in the area and they are very popular.

Would like to see large native trees & shrubs that are bird attracting

Really grateful the council is looking to revamp our local playground. We have two excited little ones who can't wait.

Kids play soccer and football etc on the grass area as yards in our suburb are not huge. Please consider how very young children could use this park. No new parks are safe for 2 and under. We use this park often as it is easy for my son to use others are not

With the increased height of the playground you will need to look at increasing the height of the fences to Bendigo close as you will be able to see into the bathroom of one of the houses

More lawn area for ball games

This is a very close, quiet park so the equipment needs to be for 1 - 10 year old not teens

Thank you for upgrading the park, it really needs it! Have you considered older kids and adults regarding equipment? (Eg a basketball court/fitness equipment).

Would be so pleased to see the proposed improvements. Children who visit me will be able to play there as I sit on one of the playground seats

Love to see the rock like sandpits with tree stamp seating and table to allow parents to sit with the children.

Many of us have lived in the area for many years and now have grandchildren so would appreciate some appropriate equipment be installed for under 5 year olds as well as what is proposed

The playground seen mainly focused on younger children. If there were monkey bars it would cater to older children too.

Make it little kid friendly (toddlers)